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Lottery Holds Second “\$130 Million Blockbuster” \$50,000 a Year for Life Preliminary Drawing -Semi-Finalists Are from Guilford and Wake Counties-

RALEIGH- The North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) today announced the two semi-finalists in the second of five preliminary drawings for the “\$130 Million Blockbuster” instant scratch-off game. These semi-finalists now will be entered into the bonus grand prize drawing for a chance to win \$50,000 a year for life with a minimum of 20 years guaranteed!

The semi-finalists from this drawing are Carlyle Leak of Greensboro and John Williams of Garner. Their entries were drawn from more than 217,000 entries.

Leak and Williams, along with the first two semi-finalists and those to be named in the upcoming preliminary drawings, will each be awarded a \$1,500 prize just for being semi-finalists. They will not only have a chance at the grand prize, but the final bonus grand prize drawing will also include prizes for the semi-finalists of \$1,000 up to \$25,000.

Leak got his drawing entry at Allen’s Exxon and Wrecker Service on North Church Street in Greensboro. Williams got his drawing entry at the lottery’s Raleigh Regional Claim Center. The next preliminary drawing will be held March 10, 2009. The entry deadline for that drawing is March 3.

“\$130 Million Blockbuster” is a \$10 instant scratch-off ticket. The game provides an added feature for players who scratch and reveal a “DRAWING” symbol —only those tickets can be entered into one of five preliminary drawings. Two entries will be drawn from each preliminary drawing.

Players also have a chance to scratch and win four remaining \$1 million prizes on the ticket, which are paid in 20 annual installments of \$50,000 (less State, Federal and any other mandatory withholdings). Plus, there are thousands of chances to win prizes between \$100 and \$50,000! More details on the drawings and the rules of the game are available on the How to Play instructions available at retail locations and can be viewed on the NCEL Web site at www.nc-educationlottery.org. Players may also call the Player Hotline at 1-877-962-7529 to request a brochure.

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100% of the North Carolina Education Lottery net proceeds are used for pre-kindergarten programs for at risk youth, reduction of class size in early grades, school construction and need-based college scholarships.

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